

THE LINSLEY R. WILLIAMS MEMORIAL MEETING

To do honor to his memory, Fellows of the Academy and friends of Dr. Linsley R. Williams, gathered in Hosack Hall on April 26, 1934, to participate in a memorial meeting.

Dr. Bernard Sachs opened the meeting, and both as President of the Academy and as a devoted friend to Dr. Williams, pointed to the gathering as evidence of the deep affection in which he was held and the loss which was felt by the Fellowship of the Academy in the death of its first Director.

The program of the meeting included three addresses dealing with various aspects of Dr. Williams' life.

Dr. John H. Finley spoke on Dr. Williams as a Citizen. With the text taken from the *Religio Medici* of Sir Thomas Browne, "There is a nobility without heraldry, natural dignity, whereby one man is ranked with another, another filed before him, according to the quality of his desert and preeminence of his good parts," Dr. Finley dwelt upon the person and services of Dr. Williams. "His head ever moved a little before his square shoulders as if ever inquiring the way of advance and ready for anything. But seeing his eyes, one could never mistake him for another — the gentleness of their salutation, the depth of understanding which they revealed, the quiet determination and their preparation against any surprise . . . Linsley Williams died a man, who lived up to its high definition — a man 'beloved and elect of men.' "

Dr. Livingston Farrand dealt with Dr. Williams' Contribution to Public Health and Medicine, beginning with Dr. Williams' entrance upon the practice of medicine in New York and his participation in the Metropolitan Sewage Commission organized in 1908. The subsequent phases of his public health career were briefly touched on by Dr. Farrand, his review culminating in Dr. Williams' assumption of the Directorship of the New York Academy of Medicine in 1924.

Of the qualities of his character which made Dr. Williams so eminently fruitful in his services to public health and medicine, Dr. Farrand said, "Many qualities were joined to make that life unusual. Natural quickness of perception, trained through years of experience, gave a background for the development of that soundness of judgment and that sagacity in affairs that in Dr. Williams' maturer years were demonstrated so often and were so widely recognized. A singularly winning personality eased the approach to any necessary discussion of a situation and an obviously disinterested attitude disarmed the skepticism of even the politically minded. A sense of humor, always valuable in forming judgments and usually dangerous in public expression, was held in check—sometimes it is true with difficulty. A healthy interest in any person or any event of significance in history or contemporary life constantly enriched the store of knowledge against which he placed any new problem for comparison and solution. And all these qualities and gifts were shot through with an idealism that was invariably present even though seldom voiced."

Dr. John A. Hartwell spoke on Dr. Williams as a Friend of the New York Academy of Medicine and its Fellows. Dr. Hartwell reviewed the history of the events which led up to the assumption of the Directorship of the Academy by Dr. Linsley R. Williams. He made special reference to the breadth of vision and tenacity of purpose which inspired a group of Academy Fellows, among whom were Delavan, Thompson, James and Stewart, to extend the influence and deepen the effectiveness of the Academy. To this "noteworthy conjunction of events" there was added the happy and wise influence of a generous benefactor, whose benevolence to the Academy was conditioned on the assumption of the direction of the affairs of the Academy by a man properly trained and fitted for the task. With what energy, intelligence and fidelity Dr. Williams assumed and exercised his office was the major substance of Dr. Hartwell's address.

To the concluding words of Dr. Hartwell, in which there was an exhortation and a pledge: "Let us dedicate ourselves to the task of realizing his ideals and let us keep the name of Linsly Rudd Williams as a symbol of doing for others and making life a sweeter, better and happier experience," the audience gave full hearted assent by standing for a minute in silent tribute.

The Linsly R. Williams Memorial Meeting was arranged by a special subcommittee, who are also charged with the publication of the Linsly R. Williams Memorial Volume, in which will appear the addresses delivered at the memorial meeting, as well as other pertinent material bearing on the life of Dr. Williams.

PROCEEDINGS OF ACADEMY MEETINGS MARCH and APRIL

STATED MEETINGS

March 1

- I. EXECUTIVE SESSION—*a.* Reading of the Minutes; *b.* Election of Benefactor; *c.* Election of Officers; *d.* Election of Fellows and Members; *e.* Vote on Constitution and By-Laws.
- II. PAPERS OF THE EVENING—SYMPOSIUM: THE PROBLEM OF CAVITATION IN PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS—*a.* From the medical standpoint, Edgar Mayer; *b.* From the surgical standpoint, Edward S. Welles, Saranac Lake; *c.* The roentgenological differential diagnosis of the tuberculous cavity, Ross Golden; *d.* Discussion, J. Burns Amberson, Jr.

THE HARVEY SOCIETY (IN AFFILIATION WITH THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE)

March 15

THE SIXTH HARVEY LECTURE, "The Significance of Morbid Process in the Fetus," George L. Streeter, Director, Department of Embryology, Carnegie Institute of Washington, Baltimore.

SECTION MEETINGS

SECTION OF SURGERY—March 2

- I. PRESENTATION OF CASES—*a.* 1. Obstructive jaundice, Choledochoduodenostomy; 2. Acute osteomyelitis of the tibia; 3. Osteochondroma of the femur, Gaston A. Carlucci; *b.* 1. Recurrent fibroma—five-year result, Paul C. Morton; *c.* Two cases illustrating paper, Charles W. Lester; *d.* One case illustrating paper, James R. Lincoln.
- II. PAPERS OF THE EVENING—*a.* Fractures of the odontoid process of the second cervical vertebra, James R. Lincoln; *b.* Chronic appendicitis and the right lower quadrant syndrome, Charles W. Lester.
- III. GENERAL DISCUSSION—Clay Ray Murray, Byron Stookey, Frederic W. Bancroft, Wm. Crawford White.
- IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION—Appointment of Nominating Committee.